



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

Monday Evening, April 18, 2016

Electricity

Strong Thunderstorms Knock Out Power to Over 159,000 Customers in Texas April 17–18

Strong thunderstorms, which caused major flooding, knocked out power to 159,222 customers in the Houston, Texas area on Sunday night into Monday. As of 4:00 p.m. EDT Monday, 54,956 customers remained without power. CenterPoint Energy, the hardest hit utility with 123,000 customer outages, said area flooding was slowing restorations efforts and in the hardest hit areas, it may take several days to complete repairs. The table below shows total affected customers and the latest reported outages by utility. The “Affected” column shows the total count of customers that lost power at one point or another over the course of the storm for each utility. These outages may not have occurred concurrently and are not the same as peak outages.

Texas Customer Power Outages			
April 17–18, 2016			
Electric Utility	State	Affected	Latest Reported
CenterPoint Energy	TX	123,000	44,570
Oncor	TX	10,816	2,958
Entergy Texas	TX	8,669	1,564
San Bernard Electric Cooperative	TX	7,180	4,995
SWEPSCO	TX	1,936	334
CPS Energy	TX	1,873	94
Austin Energy	TX	1,659	32
AEP Texas	TX	1,563	227
Pedernales Electric Coop	TX	1,500	33
Blue Bonnet Electric Cooperative	TX	1,026	149
TOTAL*		159,222	54,956

*Total outages represent only electric utilities listed in this table.

Sources:

<http://gis.centerpointenergy.com/outagetracker/index.html>
<http://www.centerpointenergy.com/en-us/residential?sa=ho>
<https://twitter.com/energyinsights>
<http://stormcenter.ontor.com/external/default.html>
http://outagemap.cpsenergy.com/CPSStaticMapsEXT/CPSSStaticMapV2_EXT.html
<https://austinenergy.com/outages/>
<http://outage.bluebonnetelectric.coop:82/>
<https://swepco.com/outages/outageMap.aspx>
http://www.pec.coop/Home/Energy_Services/pec-power-outage-center
<https://www.aeptexas.com/outages/outageMap.aspx>
<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-floods-idUSKCN0XF1OJ>
<http://www.kvue.com/weather/weather-blog-severe-weather/137444624>

DTE's 1,089 MW Fermi Nuclear Unit 2 in Michigan Reduced to 62 Percent by April 18

On the morning of April 17 the unit was operating at full power.

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/reactor-status/2016/>

Colonial Pipeline Restarts Line 1 Gasoline Pipeline April 17 after Shutdown to Investigate Problem April 15 – Shipper's Notice

Colonial Pipeline on Sunday resumed normal operations on Line 1, which delivers gasoline from the Gulf Coast to delivery points in the East Coast, according to a shipper notice. Colonial closed the line on Friday night at approximately 7:30 p.m. EDT to investigate a potential integrity issue. It restarted at approximately 6:15 a.m. EDT, the notice said. Colonial said distillate Line 2 was operating normally.

Reuters, 5:44 April 17, 2016

Marathon Pipe Line Shuts Its Two Rivers Pipeline System after 1,150-Barrel Diesel Spill in Wabash County, Illinois April 18

Marathon Pipe Line on Sunday shut its Two Rivers pipeline system as a precaution following a 1,150 barrel diesel fuel spill in Wabash County, Illinois, according to a filing with the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. The company was working to confirm the source of the release. Marathon said a sheen was seen on the Wabash River and it was attempting to deploy containment boom to mitigate the release, though elevated river levels and a high flow rate have made this difficult.

Reuters, 10:12 April 18, 2016

Reuters, 4:21 April 18, 2016

Houston Pilots Suspend Sailings Due to Heavy Flooding in Texas, Houston Ship Channel Remains Open April 18 – Coast Guard

The Houston Ship Channel remained open on Monday, the U.S. Coast Guard said, despite heavy flooding in the greater Houston area, while the Houston Pilots suspended sailings. The Houston Pilots, which guide ships safely in and out of the channel, suspended arrivals at 10:30 a.m. EDT on Sunday due to heavy weather and closed sailings at 8:00 a.m. EDT on Monday morning. The Galveston-Texas City Pilots resumed vessel boardings on Monday, at 9:30 AM EDT, according to a notice. Gal-Tex pilots had suspended vessel boardings on Sunday, April 18, at 11:30 PM EDT due to heavy weather, according to an earlier notice.

Reuters, 11:48 April 18, 2016

<http://www.uscgnews.com/go/doctype/4007/117271/>

Delta to Restart FCCU at Its 185,000 b/d Trainer, Pennsylvania Refinery Soon; Reports Emissions from Incinerator April 16 – Source

Delta's Monroe Energy plans to restart its 52,000 b/d fluid catalytic cracker unit (FCCU) at its Trainer refinery outside Philadelphia in a "few days," according to a source familiar with the plant's operations. The FCCU was shut unexpectedly on April 13 and was initially expected to be down for up to 15 days. On Saturday, Delta reported unusual emissions from an incinerator at the refinery, according to a source. Workers on the units were forced to evacuate their operator shelters as a result of the emissions, the source said. There was no impact to production, the source said.

Reuters, 10:16 April 18, 2016

Reuters, 1:55 April 17, 2016

Phillips 66 Reports Emissions Due to Equipment Failure at Its 247,000 b/d Alliance, Louisiana Refinery April 16

Phillips 66 on Saturday reported a release of carbon monoxide into the atmosphere from a bypass valve due to equipment failure at its Alliance refinery in Belle Chasse, Louisiana, according to a filing with the National Response Center.

Reuters, 10:44 April 18, 2016

ExxonMobil Reports Flaring at Its 560,500 b/d Baytown, Texas Refinery April 16

ExxonMobil Corp on Saturday reported flaring at its Baytown, Texas, refinery, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The company said Hydroformer 4 and its regeneration vent were the sources for the emissions.

Reuters, 9:58 April 17, 2016

Marathon Reports Normal Operations at Its 451,000 b/d Galveston Bay, Texas Refinery April 16 after SRU Malfunction April 15

Marathon Petroleum Corp said its Galveston Bay refinery in Texas City, Texas, returned to normal operations on Saturday following a malfunction that triggered an order for nearby residents to shelter indoors. A sulfur recovery unit (SRU) malfunction on Friday evening, triggering an order from the Texas City Emergency Management Department for residents to remain indoors with windows closed and air conditioners off because of a plume of gas from the unit. A notice filed with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on Saturday said the entire site was affected by the malfunction until the SRU was stabilized. The order was lifted early Saturday after operations workers brought the SRU under control. In the Texas Commission filing, the company estimated 5,000 pounds of sulfur dioxide, 200 pounds of nitrogen oxide, and 100 pounds of hydrogen sulfide were released into the atmosphere along with other substances.

Reuters, 11:04 April 16, 2016

Shell Reports Discharging Storm Water from Its 316,600 b/d Deer Park, Texas Refinery April 18

Royal Dutch Shell reported discharging storm water that had a slight oil sheen from its Deer Park, Texas site into the Houston Ship Channel, according to a community information line.

Reuters, 12:08 April 18, 2016

Flint Hills Reports Flaring, Power Interruption at Its 290,000 b/d Corpus Christi, Texas Refinery April 15

Flint Hills Resources on Friday reported operating conditions within its Corpus Christi, Texas West refinery made flaring necessary, according to a community information line. The company also reported a power interruption at the refinery on Friday, according to a National Response Center filing.

Reuters, 2:55 April 15, 2016

Reuters, 10:53 April 15, 2016

Total Reports Flaring at Its 225,500 b/d Port Arthur, Texas Refinery April 16

Total SA reported flaring on Saturday at its Port Arthur, Texas, refinery, according to a filing with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The company said the flaring was caused by a unit 819 trip following a sudden temperature drop on the SCOT unit.

Reuters, 10:13 April 17, 2016

Shell Reports Normal Operations at Its 145,000 b/d Puget Sound, Washington Refinery April 15 after Upset April 14

Royal Dutch Shell PLC on Friday said normal operations were restored following an upset on Thursday that led to a temporary evacuation as precaution at its Puget Sound, Washington refinery. There were no injuries reported in the incident and operators returned to the unit, the company said. A filing with a state pollution regulator indicated a malfunction involving sulfur recovery unit 3 at the refinery.

Reuters, 7:39 April 15, 2016

Phillips 66 Reports Flare Gas Recovery System Offline at Its 101,000 b/d Ferndale, Washington Refinery April 13

Phillips 66 reported the flare gas recovery system tripped offline at its Ferndale, Washington refinery, according to a filing with the Northwest Clean Air Agency. The company also reported sulfur dioxide emissions at the refinery.

Reuters, 7:09 April 15, 2016

Tesoro Reports Unplanned Flaring, Unit Upset at Its 240,000 b/d Carson, California Refinery April 18

Tesoro Corp reported unplanned flaring due to a unit upset its Los Angeles-area refinery in Carson, California, according to a filing with the South Coast Air Quality Management District. The company said the affected unit was in process of being restarted and it did not expect any impact on its ability to meet customer product supply commitments.

Reuters, 5:47 April 18, 2016

Reuters, 2:33 April 18, 2016

Husky Energy Begins Production at Its 10,000 b/d Edam East Lloyd Thermal Project in Saskatchewan April 18

Husky Energy commenced production at its Edam East Lloyd Thermal Project in Saskatchewan, the first of three thermal developments scheduled to come online this year. First oil at the development was achieved about seven weeks following the startup of steaming operations. Two additional Lloyd thermal projects, the 10,000 b/d Vawn and 4,500 b/d Edam West, are expected to begin production in the third quarter.

http://www.huskyenergy.com/news/release.asp?release_id=2050060

Hess Sells Bakken Crude for Export from U.S. Gulf Coast to Europe April 15

Hess Corp on Friday confirmed it sold Bakken crude for export out of the U.S. Gulf Coast to Europe, the first reported shipment of the light North Dakota oil since Congress lifted the ban on exporting crude last December. Hess sold 175,000 barrels of Bakken crude, which loaded at St. James, Louisiana, in early April and is being transported to a European refinery, according to a spokesman. The company did not disclose the buyer or the name of the vessel transporting the crude.

<http://finance.yahoo.com/news/hess-sells-bakken-crude-export-205511132.html>

Natural Gas

Authorities Investigate Minor Gas, Oil Leak from Crimson Resource Management's Well in SoCalGas' Aliso Canyon Storage Field in California April 16

Southern California Gas (SoCalGas) on Saturday said a new, minor natural gas and oil leak occurred in its Aliso Canyon gas storage field. The utility reported to the California Governor's Office of Emergency of Services (OES) that Crimson Resource Management, a private oil and gas company that operates a well in the Aliso Canyon gas storage field, leaked less than 50 gallons of oil spray and an unknown amount of natural gas. The leak was contained within two hours, according to an OES incident report. The California Department of Conservation's Department of Oil, Gas & Geothermal Resources responded to the facility Saturday and was investigating the incident, authorities said. The South Coast Air Quality Management District said their inspectors and monitoring staff went out to the well and were continuing to investigate.

<http://www.scpr.org/news/2016/04/17/59708/new-gas-and-oil-leak-reported-in-aliso-canyon-stor/>

<http://www.dailynews.com/government-and-politics/20160417/state-regulators-probing-latest-oil-and-gas-leak-at-aliso-canyon-storage-facility>

DCP Midstream Reports Sulfur Plant Shutdown, Flaring at Its 160 MMcf/d Goldsmith Gas Plant in Texas April 15

DCP Midstream reported while performing routine maintenance on the sulfur plant reaction furnace, the sulfur plant shutdown and acid gas was flared. The plant was restarted, ending the event a little more than an hour later.

<http://www2.tceq.texas.gov/oce/eei/index.cfm?fuseaction=main.getDetails&target=231491>

Other News

Nothing to report.

International News

Update: Oil Summit in Qatar Ends without Production Freeze April 17

The 18 oil-producing nations at a Doha, Qatar oil production summit on Sunday said they need "more time" before agreeing to a production freeze. The 18 nations discussed a proposed freeze on crude oil production to January levels as a means to increase global oil prices, which are just over \$40 a barrel after being more than \$100 in mid-2014. Iran, which was not present at the summit, has pledged to keep increasing its production to pre-sanctions levels after the nuclear deal with world powers, incensing its regional rival Saudi Arabia.

Reuters, 2:16 April 17, 2016

Kuwait Temporarily Cuts Oil Output Due to Public Sector Strike April 17

A strike on Sunday by public sector workers in Kuwait forced the temporary reduction to oil output. The Kuwait Oil Company said that it would reduce production to 1.1 million b/d from its regular output of 3 million b/d. The strike arose over a plan to overhaul the payroll system for public sector workers that would cut wages and incentives. The government dismissed the impact of the strike and said the country had at least 25 days' worth of stockpiles of petroleum by-products.

<https://next.ft.com/content/5c60d542-04c1-11e6-a70d-4e39ac32c284>

Energy Prices

U.S. Oil and Gas Prices			
April 18, 2016			
	Today	Week Ago	Year Ago
CRUDE OIL West Texas Intermediate U.S. \$/Barrel	39.69	40.41	55.56
NATURAL GAS Henry Hub \$/Million Btu	1.72	1.98	2.58

Source: Reuters

Links

This Week in Petroleum from the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/twip/twip.asp>

Updated every Wednesday.

Weekly Petroleum Status Report from EIA

http://www.eia.gov/oil_gas/petroleum/data_publications/weekly_petroleum_status_report/wpsr.html

Updated after 10:30 AM & 1:00 PM ET every Wednesday.

Natural Gas Weekly Update from EIA

<http://www.eia.gov/oog/info/ngw/ngupdate.asp>

Updated after 2:00 PM ET every Thursday.

ENERGY ASSURANCE DAILY

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<http://www.oe.netl.doe.gov/ead.aspx>

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